U.S.-Libyan Dispute

A People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison communique broadcast by JANA on 11 December denied U.S. allegations that the security situation has deteriorated for U.S. citizens in Libya and stressed that Americans there are in no danger. JANA subsequently broadcast a strong attack on recent U.S. television commentaries by Jack Anderson, charging that the details he gave of a Libyan assassination squad are imaginary. Asserting that U.S. oil experts in Libya have said oil extracting will proceed whether they stay or depart, a 13 December Tripoli radio commentary said the American oil company employees intend to stay in Libya because life is quieter and more secure there than in any U.S. city. Meanwhile, WAKH reported that Oil Secretary 'Abd as-Salam az-Zaq'ar told a 12 December press conference in Abu Dhabi that Libya will face problems as a result of the departure of U.S. companies, but will try to operate its installations itself, or with its friends. He called on the European countries to avoid following in U.S. footsteps. In an interview broadcast the same day by Voice of Lebanon radio, Libya's representative in Lebanon said his country is ready to join the Warsaw Pact "if necessary."

Voicing concern over the deterioration in U.S.-Libyan relations, an Algerian Foreign Ministry spokesman said in a statement broadcast by Algiers radio that his country regrets the "open threats of intervention" against a fraternal and neighboring country by a superpower "who quite clearly bears the responsibility for safeguarding international peace and security." Both the Syrian newspaper TISHRIN, as reported by SANA, and the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio carried commentaries strongly criticizing U.S. measures against Libya. According to KUNA, the Kuwaiti papers AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM and the Kuwait TIMES both deplored the U.S. moves, while SPA reported that AR-RIYAD warned that U.S.-Libyan differences might transform North Africa into an area of superpower conflict.

OPEC Meeting

According to Dubayy's KHALEEJ TIMES, the 6-11 December OPEC oil ministers conference in Abu Dhabi agreed on a wide range of price cuts based on revision of the price differentials for various types of oil. The paper cites Dr Mani' Sa'id al-Jutaybah, UAE petroleum and natural resources minister and conference chairman, as reiterating that the new prices will remain valid until the end of 1982. The conference final statement, broadcast by Abu Dhabi radio, noted that after hearing a report on "threats against one of the member countries," the conference emphasized that any "purely economic" threat against any member compels the other members to support that country in accordance with the OPEC Charter. It also noted the ministers' decision that the long-term strategy committee should continue its activities and that the proposal to establish an OPEC higher studies institute will be further examined.

In an interview broadcast by Tehran radio, Iranian Petroleum Minister Mohammad Gharazi affirmed that Iran resisted the oil price reductions but indicated that it finally yielded in order to retain its customers.

Syria

Al-Asad Interview -- In a lengthy interview with two Kuwaiti publications broadcast by Damascus radio, President Hafiz al-Asad said "personal reasons" prevented him from attending the Fes summit conference. Asserting that the summit was not necessarily a failure and that Syria supports its postponement to allow time for further discussion to produce a unified Arab stand, Al-Asad said his country's relations with Saudi Arabia are good, with constant contacts and dialogue. Asked whether the Saudis have financed a Syrian arms deal with the Soviet Union for MiG-25 aircraft, Al-Asad said there is no connection between Saudi support for Syria and the latter's acquisition of arms from the Soviet Union. He described the Israeli-U.S. agreement on strategic cooperation as a

"treaty of aggression against the Arab nation" and said Syria hopes to obtain weapons from the Soviet Union of the same quality and quantity as those Israel possesses. However, he said, Soviet arsenals are not open to Syria in the same way as U.S. arsenals are open to Israel.

The Syrian leader criticized unspecified "Arab citizens" for seeking the "shortest, easiest and least difficult" route to solve the Arab-Israeli conflict and also regretted that some Arabs have described any call for steadfastness and confrontation as "oneupmanship." He stressed that a just peace is currently impossible because of the strategic imbalance between Israel and the Arabs.

Reiterating charges that Jordan has supported the Muslim Brotherhood's campaign against his government, Al-Asad said the Syrian authorities will pursue the Muslim Brotherhood inside the country but not outside it, since "we did not and do not think of chasing the remnants of the Muslim Brotherhood outside Syria." He admitted that Fatah dissident Hasan al-Banna, commonly known as Abu Nidal, is being allowed to stay in Syria, but said Syria opposes any Palestinian group that harms other Palestinian groups. Al-Asad said Syria's relations with the PLO and its leader, Yasir 'Arafat, are very good. Elsewhere in his remarks Al-Asad admitted that problems, shortcomings and defects exist in the steadfastness and confrontation states, asserted that Syria would have severed relations with Iran's Islamic Republic if the Iranians had dealt with Israel, and commented on his recent talks with U.S. special envoy Philip Habib. Noting that Habib had mentioned "in passing" Syria's missiles in Lebanon, Al-Asad said a review of past events and future possibilities for Lebanon featured in the discussion, which was general rather than specific. While SANA's account of the interview reported Al-Asad as describing his talks with Habib as a "waste of time," Al-Asad did not say this in the radio's broadcast "text."

Aleppo, Hamah Clashes -- According to a 12 December Voice of Lebanon radio report, scores of people were killed in recent fighting in Aleppo and Hamah between special units and Muslim Brotherhood supporters.

Israel

An extraordinary Cabinet session decided to apply Israeli law on the Golan Heights, Jerusalem radio reported and added that Prime Minister Menahem Begin had informed Alignment faction Chairman Moshe Shahal and MK Sholomo Lorincz from Agudat Yisra'el. The radio also reported that MAPAM and Shinuy announced they would oppose the decision.

Lebanon

Voice of Lebanon radio reported that in an interview with the weekly AL-USBU' AL-ARABI, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan said his government is interested in forming a Lebanese security force, under his personal supervision, to which no side will object. He indicated that the force would enforce the cease-fire in central Beirut provided the gunmen withdraw from both sides of the central area to the hinterland of the eastern and western sectors.

Tripartite Alliance

Addis Ababa radio's English service reported that the Ethiopian-Libyan-PDRY defense and security committee held a meeting in Addis Ababa attended by Maj 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the General Secretariat of the Libyan General People's Congress; 'Ali Antar, PDRY first deputy prime minister; and Fiseha Desta, Ethiopian Council of Ministers deputy chairman. The radio gave no details of their discussions. JANA had earlier reported that during Jallud's bilateral talks with Ethiopian officials on 12 December, both sides affirmed the need for practical steps to implement the Ethiopian-Libyan-PDRY alliance.

Reaction to Cheysson Statements

Jordan's King Husayn chaired a Cabinet session devoted to a discussion and evaluation of the French position in light of recent statements by senior French officials on the Middle East situation, Amman radio reported. The Cabinet concluded that the statements constitute a "serious reversal" of French policy, destroying the main bases of Europe's Middle East policy, and recommended that Arab states reconsider their own policies in light of their "threatened interests."

According to KUNA, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf told a trade union seminar in Kuwait that Arab countries should reconsider their agreements with France, particularly those concerning oil and finance. Citing AL-QABAS, KUNA reported that Kuwaiti Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn said French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson's recent statements in Israel are a departure from traditional French efforts to maintain good relations with the Arab countries.

According to Damascus radio, ATH-THAWRAH described Cheysson's statements as a "major retreat" from past French policy, which places France in a "subservient" position to the United States.

Extradition of Palestinian

ITIM reported that Ziyad Abu 'Ayn, a Palestinian wanted by Israel for participating in a terrorist act in 1979, was extradited from the United States on 13 December. The Voice of Palestine described the U.S. decision to hand over Abu 'Ayn as a "hostile decision against the Palestinian people" and also reported that Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf said the move proves the truth about the U.S. strategic alliance with Israel. Khalaf called on Arab regimes to investigate and withdraw their ambassadors in the United States who "colluded" in this issue and concealed reports about the likelihood of Abu 'Ayn's extradition.

A Jordanian Foreign Ministry statement broadcast by Amman radio also denounced the extradition, describing it as illegal and asserting that 'Abu 'Ayn should be handed over to Jordan. Claiming that his trial will enhance the Palestinian cause, the Jordanian statement said 'Abu 'Ayn is now among thousands of prisoners kept in Israeli jails for exercising their civil and political rights in resisting occupation in accordance with the fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.

Egypt

Mubarak Press Conference -- In a 13 December press conference reported by MENA, President Husni Mubarak said that while Egypt will continue its present policy, "there might be some changes in methods." He deplored the spread of "biased rumors" about the position of the Copts, aimed at creating unacceptable disturbances. Asked about Egypt's military presence on its border with Libya, Mubarak said there are no troops there "for the reason some imagined," adding that Egypt will not start a war against any Arab state.

Detainees Released -- MENA reported that on 12 December the supreme state security prosecutor released 17 detainees accused of communicating with a foreign country and other offenses. The group, which includes former Deputy Prime Minister Muhammad 'Abd as-Salam az-Zayyat, was released for lack of sufficient evidence.

Bahrain

An Interior Ministry statement broadcast by Manama radio on 13 December announced the arrest of a group of Bahrainis and other Gulf nationals who had come to Bahrain after having been trained by Iran to sabotage vital installations in the country. The radio also broadcast a Foreign Ministry statement revealing that Bahrain protested Iranian support for the saboteurs to the Iranian charge d'affaires in Manama and requested an official Iranian clarification of the matter. According to WAKH, the Bahraini paper

AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ strongly attacked the Iranian leaders in its 14 December editorial, accusing them of seeking to plunge Bahrain and the Arabian Gulf into an arena of conflict and dissension.

Tehran radio reported that Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Ahmad 'Azizi categorically denied Bahrain's allegations, speaking of "sinister plots" aimed at blaming Iran for instability in the region.

Iran

Security Situation -- Mashhad radio reports claimed four Mohahedin-e Khalq guerrillas were killed during clashes with revolution guards in Mashhad. Meanwhile, in a speech to Semnan Province imams broadcast by Tehran radio, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni denounced the 11 December assassination of Shiraz Friday Imam Ayatollah 'Abdolhoseyn Dastgheyb, asserting that because they fear Islam, the Mojahedin are under orders to shoot anyone "wearing a turban."

Minister Proposed -- PARS reported that Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi proposed that the Majlis approve Tehran Deputy 'Ali Akbar Velayati as foreign minister and Tehran Deputy 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri as interior minister.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Tehran radio claimed new Iranian advances in the Gilan-e Gharb region on 11 December and asserted that Iran may launch offensive operations inside Iraq in the near future. However, an Iraqi Armed Forces communique carried by INA the same day said Iraqi forces inflicted heavy losses on the Iranians and the next Iraqi communique, broadcast by Baghdad Voice of Masses radion on 12 December, claimed that Iraqi troops had counter-attacked in the Gilan-e Gharb and Sumar regions, killing over 1,200 Iranians and forcing the enemy to retreat. On the other hand, an Iranian Armed Forces communique carried by Tehran radio on 13 December said the Iranians foiled the "feeble" Iraqi counteroffensive, killing 160 Iraqis. While the Iraqi communique said two Iranian F-14 fighters and one Iraqi plane were downed in a dogfight over Gilan-e Gharb, and Iranian communique carried by Tehran radio on 12 December reported that two Iraqi planes, including a Mirage, were downed.

Afghanistan

Kabul radio reported that Prime Minister Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand held talks in Moscow on 12 December with CPSU Central Committee Secretary Boris Ponomarev. The following day, the radio reported, Keshtmand returned home to Kabul where PDPA officials welcomed him at the airport.

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KESHTMAND RETURNS TO KABUL FROM MOSCOW 13 DEC

LD131726 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 13 Dec 81

[Text] Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, returned home today.

He was welcomed at Kabul airport by members of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo; members and secretaries of the Central Committee; the vice chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium; the vice chairman and members of the Council of Ministers; a number of high-ranking officials; the counsellor and members of the USSR Embassy in Kabul.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand had gone to Sofia at the head of a delegation to take part in the 1300th anniversary of the formation of Bulgaria, at the invitation of high-ranking party and government authorities of the People's Republic of Bulgaria. En route home he stayed for a while in Moscow for a medical checkup.

According to another report, on his departure from Moscow airport, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand was seen off by Dymshits, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Maltsev, first deputy minister of the USSR Foreign Ministry; Ulyanovskiy, deputy head of the CPSU Central Committee International Department; Dr Habib Mangal, the Afghan ambassador in Moscow; members of the Afghan Embassy; and some heads and personnel of USSR party and government departments.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the Council of Ministers, arrived in Tashkent at 1800 yesterday and was welcomed there by Khudayberdyyev, chairman of the Uzbek Council of Ministers and a number of high-ranking party and government officials of Uzbekistan.

On his arrival at Kabul airport Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand expressed thanks and appreciation for the cooperation, hospitality and warm welcome of the USSR party and government authories during his stay in Moscow. He also expressed pleasure at having the opportunity to attend the 1300th anniversary of the formation of the Bulgarian state.

The BAKHTAR correspondent adds that esteemed Karema Keshtamd, the secretary in charge of the Democratic Women's Organization of Afghanistan [DWOA], who at the invitation of the authorities of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, had accompanied Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, has also returned to Kabul.

She was welcomed at Kabul airport by a delegation of the DWDA Central Council and some members of that organization.

KABUL AIRPORT SAID CLOSED TO COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC

GF111848 Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu 9 Dec 81 p 1

[Text] Quetta, 8 Dec (?PPA) -- Reports received from across the border indicate that Kabul international airport has been closed to all incoming and outgoing planes in view of increased mujahidin activity. It is said that Kabul airport is no longer safe as it is within range of mujahidin attacks. Because of this Ariana Airlines has suspended all incoming and outgoing flights and the airport is being used only by Soviet aircraft which land and take off at unfixed times.

BRIEFS

RELIEF GOODS FROM GDR -- Kabul, 12 Dec (BAKHTAR) -- A plane-load of relief goods gifted by the solidarity committee of the GDR to the Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organisation and Pioneers Organisation of the DRA arrived here yesterday. The goods include clothes, stationery, photographic equipment, slides, projectors and other items. [Text] [Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0448 GMT 13 Dec 81 LD]

DPRK PRIME MINISTER PAYS VISIT 10-12 DEC

Arrival in Dacca

BK100938 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0835 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Excerpts] A warm and hearty welcome was accorded to Prime Minister Yi Chong-ok of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea when he arrived in Dacca this morning on a 3-day visit to Bangladesh. He was received at the Zia International Airport by Prime Minister Shah Azizur Rahman. Foreign Minister Mohammad Shamsul Haq was also present at the airport. Shortly after his arrival, the DPRK prime minister called on Prime Minister Shah Azizur Rahman at the Secretariat. [passage indistinct]

Talks Begin

BK120910 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 Dec 81

[Summary] Formal talks between Bangladesh and the DPRK were held in Dacca during the morning of 11 December. Bilateral and regional matters were discussed, with special emphasis on enlarging the cooperation between the two countries. An official spokesman said later that the two sides also discussed the framework of cooperation between Bangladesh and the DPRK in the field of agriculture.

DPRK Prime Minister Yi Chong-ok called on President Abdus Sattar at Banga Bhavan this afternoon. During the meeting the DPRK prime minister congratulated Sattar for his success in the presidential election and also invited him to visit the DPRK at a convenient time.

Agricultural Agreement

BK111433 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1205 GMT 11 Dec 81

[Text] Bangaldesh and Democratic People's Republic of Korea have set up a joint agricultural commission under an agreement signed in Dacca today. The agreement was signed by the visiting vice premier and chairman of the agricultural commission of DPRK, So Kwan-hui, and Bangladesh Minister for Agriculture and Forest Fasiuddin Mahtab on behalf of their respective governments. The agreement provides, among other things, for the exchange of information between the two countries in agricultural fields. So Kwan-hui announced a gift of 30 tractors to Bangladesh as a token of friendship.

Report on Departure

BK121254 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1205 GMT 12 Dec 81

[Text] Prime Minister of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Yi Chong-ok left Dacca this afternoon for home at the end of his 3-day official visit to Bangladesh. He was seen off at the airport by Prime Minister Shah Azizur Rahman and Foreign Minister Prof Shamsul Haq. A contingent of three services presented a guard of honor to the DPRK prime minister before he boarded the special plane.

In a prepared statement to the press, Yi Chong-ok referred to the formal talks held with the Bangladesh delegation and said both sides exchanged views on developing relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries and other matters of common concern and (?reached) an identity of views.

Earlier, Yi Chong-ok called on Vice President Dr M.N. Huda at his office this morning and discussed matters of mutual interest. The vice president apprised the visiting prime minister of the economic development in the country. The DPRK prime minister showed keen interest in (?Bangladesh's) development activities. Yi Chong-ok extended his invitation to Dr Huda to visit his country.

GANDHI ON NUCLEAR FUEL EXPLORATION, DEVELOPMENT

BK100944 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 10 Dec 81

[Text] The prime minister informed the Rajya Sabha today that the government has taken up a three-pronged program to increase the availability of uranium in the country. The program aims at intensifying exploration of the mineral and strengthening of analytical facilities.

Mrs Gandhi said public and private industries are being encouraged to develop competence to fabricate nuclear equipment.

In reply to another question, the prime minister informed the house that work on (Nuax) fuel, which is a mixture of plutonium and natural uranium, has been carried out and government will take a decision on making it substitute for enriched uranium at the appropriate time, she added.

COMMENTARY ON GHALI VISIT, RELATIONS WITH EGYPT

BK111428 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 11 Dec 81

[Commentary on Indo-Egyptian relations by S. Vishwam of "Deccan HERALD"]

[Text] Egypt and India lay claim to ancient and great civilizations and there is much in the historic past that is common which binds their ties. In recent times, this historical association has helped both of them to commit themselves to and work for the ideals of the Nonaligned Movement, of which the two of them along with Yugoslavia are confounders. This in turn has provided the foundation of Indo-Egyptian relations which had a smooth course but marked occasionally by differing perceptions over some global and regional issues. Both countries have, however, tended to underplay their differences in the interest of their shared commitment to world peace, nonalignment and the new international economic order.

Support to the Arab cause has not only been a matter of principle with India but also an important factor of its foreign policy. India has always hailed that a just and comprehensive peace in west Asia is conditional on the restoration of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people and the complete vacation of Israeli aggression.

Egypt's agreement with Israel under the aegis of the United States, which is more popularly known as the Camp David accord, was no doubt well meant and aimed at a solution of the west Asian crisis. But India could not endorse the agreement or even share in the optimistic Egyptian assessment that it would lead to a permanent solution, because New Delhi believes that the Palestinian Liberation Organization, PLO, as the sole representative of the Palestinian people, must participate in any peace negotiations and nothing durable can result if they are excluded.

President as-Sadat of Egypt was a man of peace and his successor Husni Mubarak is committed to maintain continuity of his policy.

The 3-day visit to New Delhi of Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr Butrus Ghali provided an opportunity for an exchange of views on international and regional matters. Dr Ghali was no stranger to India having been here last year and on other occasions in the past.

The current status of the west Asian crisis and Egypt's assessment of the progress toward the resolution of that crisis figured in the discussions in New Delhi. Egypt appears confident that the scheduled total withdrawal on 26 April 1982 of Israel from all occupied Egyptian territory would provide a new impetus to the solution of the Palestinian problem since it might establish Egyptian and Israeli credentials in the eyes of the Arab world.

Apart from west Asia, India had occasion to draw Dr Ghali's attention to another development of immediate concern to India, namely the manifestation of the revived cold war at its very doorstep. Smaller countries of the region are becoming pawns in a superpower game of exploiting local conflicts for pursuit of their global designs. Tensions in this part of the world stem from the strategic involvement of outside powers and India, like Egypt, can ill afford to bear the repercussions of the superpower confrontation.

Dr Ghali conceded that Egypt had developed a special relationship with the United States but he hastened to assure that this would neither lead to the status of alignment nor to the ceding of military bases in Egypt. However, Egypt has chosen to support the U.S. concept of strategic consensus in the western Asian and Gulf regions and in furtherance of such support has participated in the U.S.-conducted military exercises and training programs for American troops.

While New Delhi, naturally, would not wish to adopt any position which would be interpreted as interference in the internal affairs of other countries, India, as a rule, is opposed to the militarization of any region since it invariably and inevitably leads to destabilization.

One of the fallouts of superpower confrontation is also the ready arms buildup in the subcontinent which India cannot but deplore.

Dr Ghali advocated the creation of zones of peace and disarmament as remedies against situation leading to the arms race, but it is doubtful whether in the existing conditions such remedies are possible. Bilaterally, Dr Ghali's visit provided another opportunity for Indian leaders to stress their commitments to extend the scope of mutually advantageous ccoperations in many fields.

BRIEFS

INDO-SOVIET COMMISSION MEETING -- The India-Soviet commission for cooperation in social sciences reviewed the works undertaken in the field of social sciences at its fourth plenary meeting in New Delhi on 7 December. The two sides discussed regional developments and problems of arid and semiarid areas in both countries. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Dec 81 BK]

PRC TO IMPORT IRON ORE -- New Delhi, 9 Dec (AFP) -- China plans to import 1 million tonnes of iron-ore per annum from India on a long-term basis, the ECONOMIC TIMES reported here today. It was quoting members of a Chinese delegation representing the China Metallurgical Import and Export Corporation which returned to Beijing after a 10-day visit to India. China currently imports about 4 to 5 million tonnes of iron-ore annually, mainly from Australia and Brazil. The newspaper said China would stand to gain considerably in its import of iron-ore mainly because of the geographical proximity, which would mean a sizable reduction in freight rates when compared to Brazil. The difference in freight alone would work out to about U.S. $5 per tonne -- about $5 less than imports from Brazil. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 0522 GMT 9 Dec 81 BK]

MINISTER OF STATE DIES -- Minister of State for Communications Kartik Oraon died of a heart attack in New Delhi on 8 December. He was 57. [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 8 Dec 81 BK]

ENCEPHALITIS EPIDEMIC IN SOUTH -- New Delhi, 8 Dec (AFP) -- A raging encephalitis epidemic has claimed 49 lives in the Chittoor District of southern Andhra Pradesh State and is still spreading fast, reports said today. District officials were quoted as saying today in Chittoor, in the southernmost part of the state on the border with neighbouring Tamilnadu, that the number of villages affected had increased from 36 last month to 107. An outbreak of the disease had earlier been reported from the neighboring Karnataka State. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 1235 GMT 8 Dec 81 BK]

FOREIGN, INTERIOR MINISTERS PRESENTED TO MAJLIS

LD141146 Tehran PARS in English 0949 GMT 13 Dec 81

[Text] Tehran, 13 Dec (PARS) -- Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi this morning introduced Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati as the foreign minister and Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri as the interior minister upon the approval of President Khamene'i.

The Islamic Consultative Assembly of Iran (Majlis) should give a vote of confidence to such an appointment in order the two ministers could start their work in the Cabinet.

KHOMEYNI SPEAKS TO SEMNAN FRIDAY IMAMS, OTHERS

LD121812 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Dec 81

[Text] Dear listeners: As you were informed earlier in this newscast, the Friday imams of Semnan Province met and conferred with Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, this morning. During this meeting the Hojaj-e Eslam Beheshti, Musavi, Na'imabadi, Shahcherighi and Mahdavi were also present. First Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Asgari, the former Friday imam of Semnan and the deputy of Mashhad at the Islamic Consultative Assembly, presented a report. Afterward, Imam Khomeyni graciously made some remarks. We end this newscast of the Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran with the text of the speech by the imam of the Islamic Republic. May God be with you.

[Begin Khomeyni recording -- duration 15 minutes] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I am grateful to the kind gentlemen who have come here to see me. I beseech God Almighty to grant success to all of us and enable us to carry this heavy load to its destination at this particular time when all pens and tongues and all the radios and televisions outside the country have risen against Islam and the Islamic Republic, which are guilty of nothing but being Islamic. May God grant success to all of you, us and the Islamic nation to be able to implement the Islamic laws in this country first and in other countries later, God willing, by the hand of the nations themselves.

You know that the major powers are most concerned about the clergy. The main target of these powers and their scum, inside the country, is the clergy. Therefore, you see that they have martyred some figures who were guilty of nothing but being good Muslims who were guiding the people. Perhaps you are aware that yesterday they tragically martyred the late Mr Dastgheyb. Following any victory by our Islamic Republic, these hyenas of the United States -- who consider themselves as supporters of the masses -- aim their fire at small children and even babies. They fire at persons who only prove the guilt of criminals and guide people. Maybe you gentlemen did not know Mr Dastgheyb very well, but I did. He was a saved man in every sense. He was a teacher of morality; he was a guide for the people. Through all his comments he used to talk of spiritual matters and he used to invite people to go to God and Islam. Nevertheless, the aim of the counterrevolutionary groups is to select their targets mainly from those who invite people to Islam.

Apparently these corrupt Mojahedin, these hypocrites, in their statements have urged their members to kill those who wear turbans. The statement says: When you come across a person wearing a turban, do not ask yourselves whether he is guilty or not. Wearing a turban is itself an offense. Well, it was an offense to wear a turban before. Thus, the servants of Britain during that era also had the same target, the aim of eradicating the turban. The more pious they are, the more they should be annihilated; that was their aim. The reason is that they are frightened of Islam and they have realized that those who wear the turbans are (?guides) of Islam who teach people about Islam and who invite people to follow Islam. That is why they are more concerned about this strata than any other and that is why they have chosen this strata as a target.

You gentlemen must note that these kinds of problems have not been limited to our era only. From the early Islamic era to the present, the aim of these arrogant ones has been to get rid of ulema in every city, because the ulema are supporters of the meek and they want to plunder the meek. This has been their [word indistinct] and tradition. But we should act in accordance with our duties. Thank God, because the more they commit such crimes now and the more they indulge in these kinds of corruption, the more the people understand the depth of the issue. Perhaps these corrupt groups were able to deceive some people previously by saying: We are working for the masses; we intend to remove corrupt individuals and this regime is corrupt. But now, gradually, they are exposing their real intentions. Gradually they are exposing their relations with Iraq, their connection with the Democrats [Kurdish Democratic Party] which support the West and their relations with Saddam [word indistinct]. Thanks be to God, they have lost face and are in disgrace.

They can only commit acts of subversion now. It does not require a great power to carry out such subversive tasks. Even a burglar can set fire to a house. They are now only the same as those burglars who sometimes set fire to houses and commit acts of sabotage. They are not able to do anything else. In the eyes of our nation they no longer have any prestige left. Maybe they are committing these acts of subversion in order to cool off their own anger. Otherwise, they themselves know that they cannot achieve anything by such acts. A government cannot be overthrown by explosions.

I hope that the gentlemen will be careful that, God forbid, some of the young clerical students do not do something which might provide an excuse to the counterrevolutionaries. This has always been in my mind and I have said repeatedly the same thing to the ulema who kindly come here to visit me. (?They are fighting against) you, you who do nothing wrong except to guide the people.

This government is doing nothing wrong but defending the truth. This government has never been an aggressor but has defended itself. Nevertheless, there is so much in foreign radios and news agencies. Iran has achieved so many victories and is advancing so well, although all the powers have stood against it. But foreign news agencies, radios and [word indistinct] have either kept silent vis-a-vis these victories or they only say that Iran claims this and Iraq claims that, Iran is claiming something which is not certain yet. Although they came here and saw the front and although some of the news agencies have reported the truth, they still refer to it with suspicion or remain silent. After the recent victory of Iran, last night or the night before, they have kept silent for the most part. There has been no mention of it yet. There has only been a reference that Iran is more active now and that Iraq has also said this and that. They refer to Iraq immediately, saying that Iraq has said that they have killed several thousand Iranians.

You gentlemen must pay more attention to the issue of guiding the people. Assure the people that they are victorious. Almighty God keeps His promises. He has promised victory to those who rise up for the sake of God and to those assist Islam and the religion of God. Guide the youths before they fall into the trap of these bandits, God forbid. The youths and the children are easily deceived by talk. I hope that they also will be successful in solving their problems and not listen to such talk. You, in your Friday prayers, in meetings and gatherings, assure people that there is victory for them. The people themselves are on the scene, thanks be to God. As long as there is such cohesiveness between the people and the armed forces and between various strata and the clergy, as long as this cohesiveness remains, God will honor His promise. There is no doubt about it.

I hope you gentlemen will make an effort to invite people to virtue and peace and will pay attention to issues. Of course, you appreciate that the issue of shortcomings is not confined to Semnan. There is the revolution and the revolution is followed by many shortcomings, particularly in places where all the wealth was offered to (?the foreigners). They gave that vast quantity of oil to the foreigners for free. The little money which may have been given to them instead, was spent on the foreigners and [words indistinct]. They made Iran dependent in all respects. They diverted Iran from all points of view and went away, fled.

In such a case, of course, everybody must make an effort to improve matters, God willing. The government should not be expected to put such a thing into practice quickly. The government comes from the people themselves. The shortcomings are not to be blamed on the government. Of course, I know that there are shortcomings. It is not confined to your city, your province. This is an issue everywhere. I hope all these problems will be solved by making people understand that it is the people who should do these things through supporting the government. God willing, I hope Iran will be cleansed of the corruption which has existed in it. I hope it will be completely cleansed. Thank God, so far it has been to a high extent.

A lot of work has been done for the people so far. I hope later, when there is some peace, more will be done. The main thing is the people's attention and cooperation. Thank God, so far the officials have enjoyed it and, God willing, they will continue to enjoy it.

You gentlemen of course must strengthen these guidance centers. You must strengthen your speeches, strengthen the people and invite their souls to righteousness. If there is righteousness in a society, it will not need arms.

May God grant you all success and make us all servants of Islam and the Muslims. [end recording]

'PRO-AMERICANS' BLAMED FOR DASTGHEYB DEATH

LD111834 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, has sent the following message on the martyrdom of Ayatollah Dastgheyb:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. We belong to God and to Him we will return.

Our beloved people, and apples of our eyes crush the pro-American insurgents, repulse the soldiers of Satan, send them to hell on the southern fronts and create pride and greatness for Islam to such an extent that internal and external pro-American corrupt people and hypocrites have lost patience, and their madness and savage behavior have intensified. You might consider martyr Beheshti guilty, but what motive have your for killing others like Madani and martyr Dastgheyb, whose only fault was to educate the deprived and to guide the people because of their loyalty to Islam and their support to the deprived and oppressed? What was the fault of those innocent infants in prams who have not even begun to talk yet? Their only fault was that they were the children of Muslims who oppose American domination of their lives and property.

Today, Friday, the day of prayer and meditation, the hands of criminal pro-Americans have deprived the Iranian nation and the respectable people of Fars Province of the presence of a valuable personality who was a great teacher and a knowledgable man, whose only fault was his commitment to Islam. All religious seminaries and the Iranian nation are mourning this loss.

It is now time for observers and analysts to reflect on these crimes and evil deeds and to discover the motive for them. Why is it that after each victory gained by us and following each defeat suffered by the pro-American Ba'thist Party these hypocrites and corrupt people commit another big crime? It cannot be mere coincidence that following the Abadan victory a crime was committed, following the Bostan victory another crime, and today following the great conquest of the west and the disgraceful defeat of Islam's enemies this great crime was committed. Were these merely coincidences or premeditated and carried out in accordance with instructions? Are we losing these theologians, these great men and valuable teachers merely to compensate for the defeat suffered by America in the region and pro-American Saddam's defeats on fronts?

May God bless these esteemed crusaders whose martyrdom guarantees Islam's victory and the disgrace of criminal America and its puppets and supporters.

I wish to condole with the imam mahdi, the brave nation of Iran, the honorable people of Fars Province and that martyr's family on this tragedy and this terrible loss. I beseech Almighty God for the final victory of the army of Is'am over satanic powers. Peace and god's benedictions be upon the virtuous.

[Signed] Ruhollah Musavi-Khomeyni, 11 December 1981

SHIRAZ REPORTS ON 12 DEC DASTGHEYB FUNERAL

GF131036 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 12 Dec 81

[Text] Shiraz went into mourning today and was plunged into sadness and grief at the loss of the imam's representative in Fars Province and Shiraz Friday imam, His Holiness Ayatollah Hajj Seyyed 'Abdolhoseyn Dastgheyb. The faithful people of Shiraz began mourning for this (?epic-creating) fighter following the announcement of a 1-day mourning period by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and a 3-day mourning period announced by the governor general of Fars. They were also asked to mourn by the combatant clerical society, all revolutionary and government organizations and the family of the martyred Ayatollah Dastgheyb.

The funeral ceremony in Shiraz began at 0900 with the closure of all shops and offices. thousands of Shirazi women and men accompanied by military and law enforcement personnel and Shiraz Islamic Revolution Guard Corps brothers began this glorious funeral at the martyr's house in Shiraz. According to our correspondents, this was the largest crowd and most glorious ceremony ever held in Shiraz.

The mourners honored the [spiritually] clean body of the imam's representative in Fars and Shiraz Friday imam as well as the clean bodies of Hajj Mohammad Reza 'Abdollahi, an old ally of Ayatollah Dastgheyb; Ayatollah Dastgheyb's grandson Seyyed Mohammad Taqi Dastgheyb; Mohammad 'Ali Jabbari; Akbar Maneshi; Ja'far Rafi'i; and Seyyed Morteza Ja'fari -- the ever-present guards of the imam's representative in Fars -- as well as Rajab 'Ali Habibzadeh, the imam's companion. They formed a 5-km-long line that stretched from the martyr's house to the holy shrine of Ahmad ibn Musa -- peace be upon him and his descendants. The mourners, who were carrying the dismembered bodies of the 11 December Shiraz martyrs, chanted "Death to the United States, death to the killer hypocrites!" They shouted against world-devouring imperialism and conducted a funeral that was worthy of the position of the martyrs.

It should be mentioned that during yesterday's incident in Shiraz, which resulted in the martyrdom of His Holiness Ayatollah Dastgheyb, the imam's representative in Fars, an unidentified youth and a woman were also killed. Today, tomorrow and the day after [words indistinct] in Shiraz's 'Atiq Mosque for the 'Ali-like Friday imam of Shiraz, who lived like Abudhar and attained martyrdom like 'Ali for and on the road to worship. The clean body of the martyr Ayatollah Hajj Seyyed 'Abdolhoseyn Dastgheyb is buried on the site of the holy shrine of Ahmad ibn Musa -- peace be upon him and his descendants. The clean bodies of the Shiraz Friday imam's assistants and the five selfless combatants of the Islamic revolution who attained martyrdom during the Bostan victory were buried in the martyrs' section of the Dar Alrahmeh cemetery in Shiraz. They have been identified as: Farhad Shahcheragi, Seyyed 'Ali Reza Sharifi-Hoseyni, Jalil [name indistinct], Mohammad Sadeq (?Este'jab) and Samamd Phalavanian. According to our reporter, in addition to hundreds of thousands of Shirazi citizens, thousands of people from cities and districts in Fars arrived in Shiraz in hundreds of vehicles and participated in His Holiness Ayatollah Dastgheyb's glorious funeral yesterday. According to our reporters in Fars, Bushehr and Kohkiluyeh va Boyer Ahmad Provinces, additional ceremonies will be carried out today and tomorrow.

RAFSANJANI COMMENTS ON DEFENSE COUNCIL SESSION

LD122348 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 12 Dec 81

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the Supreme Defense Council met this afternoon chaired by President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i.

At the conclusion of the council's meeting tonight Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani spoke to our correspondent in an exclusive interview on topics discussed by the council tonight.

He said the council tonight heard a report submitted by the chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the general situation at the fronts. Also reporting to the council was the deputy commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps. Both men briefed the council on the recent victories achieved by the forces of Islam on the western fronts and the strategies adopted by the Islamic forces to counter the aggressors. The council also discussed the arms industry situation.

Commenting on the Saddam regime's false allegation that the Iraqi POW's were being executed by the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mr Rafsanjani said: One of Saddam's aims is to frighten his soldiers into not surrendering to the forces of Islam. This is because he has come to the conclusion that Iraqi soldiers surrender in the initial engagements on the battlefields. He said: Nevertheless, the Iraqi soldiers must realize that such allegations rank among Saddam's greatest lies and we are ready to take him on a tour of our military camps. He said: We consider the Iraqi people, including the Iraqi Army personnel, as ourselves and we believe the main obstacle is Saddam himself and the Iraqi Ba'th Party.

Commenting on the future of the Iraqi POW's, Mr Rafsanjani said: We must keep them in Iran until the day that the war is over, so they can go back to the battlefield against Israel. Therefore, Mr Rafsanjani added, we are not prepared to give up these forces at a cheap price. Why? Because they should remain an asset for the world of Islam.

Details of this interview are to be carried later.

ARMY, GUARDS COMMANDERS ON 11 DEC OPERATIONS

LD112150 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Dec 81

[Text] Colonel Seyyed-Shirazi, the commander of the army and of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Armed Forces, has told PARS in an interview that from what I saw during the operations today, under the codename of Tolu'e Fajr [daybreak] and "Mahdi Adrekni, Allaho Akbar," [mahdi save us, God is great], I concluded that these operations were in line with a true dedication by the Islamic combatants to Islam and the sacred path of the Islamic revolution. I witnessed how our combatants were fighting the infidel enemy and how they were creating epics, thus enabling us to thank God more than ever and, in return for the Almighty's numerous blessings, to make further efforts in consolidating the bases of the Islamic regime and the fulfillment of the sacred Islamic revolution's goals and aspirations.

He went on to say that today's victory has paved the way for future victories and our forces have inflicted heavy losses on the enemy in return for the minor losses sustained.

Commenting on the Islamic combatants' power, he said that it was of a high quality, and our brothers, who included personnel of the armed forces, the Islamic revolution guards, the Mobilization forces and the Muslim and valiant tribal forces, enjoyed full support and cover by the air force and the Airborne Division. These forces joined hands today, demonstrating God's might on the battlefield. These operations, like the operations in the southern fronts, God willing, will eventually crush the infidel forces of Saddam.

Mohsen Reza'i, commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, speaking in a PARS interview, also described today's operations as successful. He said that the victory achieved in Gilan-e Gharb today has a follow-up operation within the context of the offensive strategy drawn up few months ago with the aim of showing Iran's combat power to the enemy. He said what has been done during this short period on the southern and the western fronts is an indication of our combat power and initiative, and we hope the people and the Armed Forces of Iraq will realize that Saddam cannot continue the war. He said we hope that this message will at least help the Iraqi Armed Forces to realize that they must expedite their withdrawal and before [words indistinct] from Islamic territory.

He said that we and other brothers from our forces witnessed love from Islam, martyrdom and dedication. These qualities have hdlped to create such morale among our brothers that our combatants succeeded in capturing the huge Siyah Koh heights in a short time.

JOINT GROUND FORCES, GUARDS CORPS COMMUNIQUE

LD111144 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Dec 81

[Joint communique issued by the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. "With God's assistance, victory is near." [Koranic verse] This time we shall deliver such a blow to Saddam's face that he can no longer get up, Imam Khomeyni has said.

Once again, the fighters of Islam, these angels in the form of men, inspired by their uncompromising leader, following their major victory and the defeat of the American mercenaries of Saddam in Bostan and Neykhazar have, from the early hours of this morning, started very successful operations on the Gilan-e Gharb and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab axis called "Tolu'-e Fajr" [daybreak]. During these operations, (Charmian), Sar Tappeh, Siah Kuh, (Bizehkashk), (Sabzaftab), (Eraqi), (Kolineh), (Tang-e Kurak), Dasht-e Shattiyan heights and Gomar, Birsepid, Birsavar villages in Dasht-e Gilan, which were under the occupation of the mercenaries of Saddam, were recaptured. So far, these self-sacrificing and heroic forces of Islam have been able to kill more than 1,000 of the mercenaries of world imperialism. One tank battalion has been destroyed and four battalions known as Saddam's special forces have also been completely destroyed. One Iraqi helicopter was also downed by our forces. The number of captured prisoners which have been evacuated to behind the fronts reached 200 by 1100 today.

[Signed] The commander of the ground forces, Colonel Seyyed-Shirazi; the commander of the Guards Corps, Mohsen Reza'i

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUES 725-728

725: Successful Operations

LD111118 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 Dec 81

[Communique 725 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Dear and noble compatriots of Iran: At dawn today, on one of the western fronts of the country, the brave and powerful combatants of Islam comprising the self-sacrificing forces of the Guards Corps and the army and other popular forces, launched a coordinated attack codenamed Tolu'-e Fajr [daybreak] and under the title of "Ya Mahdi Adrekni" [Oh Mahdi save us] and created new pride, inflicted fatal blows on the forces of blasphemy and achieved remarkable victories.

During these successful operations, the enemy suffered the following losses and damages, and the following regions were captured by our forces:

Capture of the Charmian heights, the (Talineh), (Sabzakan), (Dirnakash), (Siakuh), (Saraftab), (Tang-e Kudak), [name indistinct], and (Dasht-e Shakinan) heights; capture of the villages of (Gonad), Gur Safid and Gur Savar. Two hundred prisoners of war were transferred to behind the front. One enemy tank batallion was destroyed. One helicopter and four commando battalion known as Saddam's special force were also destroyed; about 1,000 enemy troops were killed during these operations.

The battle is still continuing and with the succor of God we shall bring the details of its victorious ending to the attention of our dear and grateful compatriots of Iran.

726: 11 Dec Report

LD111808 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Dec 81

[Communique 726 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Offering the purest congratulations and greetings to the imam of the nation, the great leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and to the honorable Iranian nation on today's victory of the army of Islam on the Gilan-e Gharb fronts, some of the events in the past 24 hours on the fronts of the battle between truth and falsehood are announced as follows:

Sporadic or continuous fighting continued with artillery and heavy-weapon fire between our forces and the forces of the aggressive Iraqi Army on most of the western and southern fronts in the country. The successful and epic-making operations carried out this morning in Gilan-e Gharb overshadowed the operations and self-sacrifices carried out on the other battlefronts.

In the Tang-e Hajiyan and Cham-e Emam Hasan areas, our devotees made a surprise attack, capturing a quantity of enemy ammunition as spoils of war, and in the Tavilah area, in Iraq, they managed to destroy two trucks belonging to the Saddamists.

On the Bostan front the combatants of the ground forces seized intact a personnel carrier of the Iraqi forces.

On the Khuninshahr front the combatants of the gendarmerie, opening fire on the enemy positions and installations in the Al-Faw area, set fire to one fuel tanker and some installations and destroyed several trenches, foxholes and observation posts belonging to the enemy.

727: 12 Dec Report

LD121954 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Dec 81

[Communique 727 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God. The committed and fighting warriors of the Iranian Armed Forces and people's warriors are increasing their efforts to crush and eliminate the aggressor enemy. Their efforts are being prompted by their dedication to Islam.

Following the victory resulting from the "Daybreak" operations, today too, our combatants while denying the enemy any success, consolidated their recaptured positions, brought the remaining Iraqi personnel in Gilan-e Gharb and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab axis under their heavy-weapon fire and are currently continuing the engagement, with our forces maintaining superiority.

At 1030 today one Iraqi aggressor aircraft was destroyed by our antiaircraft units and crashed in the Kaleh Ju region. At 1100 one Iraqi Mirage was hit by one of our aircraft in Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and crashed. Its pilot was captured.

Our artillery fire in the Bani (?Balik) region destroyed three enemy trenches and one observation post. Information concerning enemy casualties is not available.

Along the southern fronts yesterday exchanges of fire continued. In the region west of Dezful, following fire mounted by Iranian artilerry on the enemy's positions, one enemy tank was destroyed and the enemy was denied any movement.

In the Abadan region, the victorious personnel of Islam set on fire 10 enemy trenches and 2 observation posts and killed or wounded 7 Iraqi personnel. They also destroyed one tank, one cannon, two mortars, three vehicles and one ammunition dump in the Ziyadiyeh region.

728: 13 Dec Report

LD131810 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Dec 81

[Communique 728 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. With gratitude to all the combatants of the fronts of the battle between right and wrong, especially the victorious combatants of the ground forces, gendarmerie, the Guards Corps brothers, the Mobilization of the Oppressed and the other tribal forces of the region, who have achieved such pride and honor for the dear Islam may your battle be victorious and your victory be joyous.

Fighting continued on most of the fronts in Gilan-e Gharb yesterday. The powerful army of Islam, while maintaining operational superiority, holding the initiative and consolidating its captured positions, which had been occupied by the Iraqi aggressors, bravely continues its battle. During yesterday's operations on the Gilan-e Gharb fronts, they bravely crushed successive enemy counteroffensives so that at 1210 yesterday our powerful combatants, during an audacious operation that foiled the enemy's last feeble counteroffensive, were able to kill about 160 enemy personnel and capture 20 of them. Five tanks, one 106-mm gun and one ammunition dump of the aggressive Iraqi forces were completely destroyed.

On the other western fronts, sporadic exchanges of fire continued. In the Meymak sector firing was more intense, and as a result a number of enemy tanks and five vehicles were damaged. A number of slit trenches and foxholes were destroyed and a number of enemy personnel were killed.

On the fronts west of Dezful, the ground forces combatants, while defending their positions and bringing enemy positions under fire, destroyed one heavy mortar and killed or wounded a number of aggressors. During a series of surprise operations, while dealing effective blows at the enemy, they captured a variety of enemy communications equipment, weapons and ammunition, including three machineguns, one walkie-talkie and a considerable amount of ammunition.

On another front in that sector, they destroyed two mortars, one fuel reservoir and a number of enemy trenches.

Yesterday the sporadic exchange of artillery and heavy-weapon fire continued on the Abadan fronts. On the Khuninshahr and Arvand Rud front, the combatants of the navy brought enemy positions under fire, destroying 2 mortars and 10 slit trenches. Silencing the Iraqi forces' artillery fire, they killed eight of them.

GUARDS CORPS ANNOUNCES BATTLES, VICTORIES

LD122042 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Dec 81

[Summary] The Public Relations Office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps issued a communique on some of the operations carried out by the corps.

Following yesterday's victories, the defenders of Islam continued to consolidate and establish the positions they recaptured from the enemy in the Gilan-e Gharb region. In Meymak, the Guards Corps succeeded in destroying a number of enemy positions through their guerrilla attacks and killed a large number of the enemy. When confronted by one of Saddam's patrols, the group of guards killed 10 enemy soldiers and injured a number of others. Our forces also directed heavy-artillery fire against several enemy gathering points and artillery positions, completely destroying them. A large number of Saddamists were killed or wounded in these operations but the exact number is not known.

On the Marivan front, the artillery fire of our combatants on (Haft Tavalan) near (Kajan), the (Bani Baluch) garrison and the (Chani Dareh) heights destroyed two vehicles, one mortar, several trenches and killed or wounded a number of enemy forces. Our forces also captured 10 Saddamists.

On the Karkheh Kur front, the Guards Corps destroyed an enemy tank. The courageous combatants of Islam have continued to fight against Saddam's criminal elements inside the country as well. In a fierce confrontation on 10 December between the defenders insurgents in Bukan, at least 35 of the internal agents of international oppression were killed or wounded. The rest fled.

On the same day, counterrevolutionaries attacked one of the Guards Corps bases in Kamyaran. Because of the gaurds' resistance, the raiders fled, having suffered three dead and seven wounded. No damages or casualties were suffered by our forces.

REPORTERS INVITED TO VISIT LIBERATED AREAS

LD121150 Tehran PARS in English 1050 GMT 12 Dec 81

[Text] Tehran, 12 Dec (PARS) -- The war information headquarters invites all the realist foreign reporters of the world, especially those of the Third World, to visit the recently liberated regions in the western Iran in Tolu'-e Fajr [daybreak] operation so that they would observe for themselves the baselessness of Saddam's allegations as they perceived in the Bostan victory, it was announced this morning.

In addition, the reporters would also have the opportunity to visit the prisoners of war and thus verify and reflect the truth to the world.

To go on this trip, foreign reporters should refer to the Foreign Press Office of the Ministry of Islamic Guidance as soon as possible.

CLANDESTINE CLAIMS ZAHIRNEZHAD IN DISFAVOR

GF130655 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 13 Dec 81

[Text] The Voice of Iran correspondent has reported that following a disagreement between Brigadier General Zahirnezhad and 'Ali Khamene'i, Colonel Seyyed-Shirazi -- the commander the regime has forced on the ground forces -- and Mohsen Reza'i, commander of Khomeyni's revolution guards, have been jointly issuing war communiques for the past several days. Brigadier General Zahirnezhad has thus been effectively removed as commander of the Joint Staff of the armed forces.

Our correspondent adds: The cable Khomeyni sent to Colonel Seyyed-Shirazi and Mohsen Reza'i on Saturday further corroborates this report. All messages previously issued by Khomeyni to the regime's military commanders had been addressed to Zahirnezhad. However, he was not even mentioned in the last one.

Brigadier General Zahirnezhad fell into disfavor when he objected to issuing a joint army and revolution guards communique following the recapture of Bostan, which is near Susangerd. He was merely reaffirming the objections armed forces commanders had to issuing such a communique. In a session of the regime's Supreme Defense Council, Zahirnezhad told 'Ali Khamene'i and Mohsen Reza'i that the revolution guards should issue separate communiques on their military operations, as they had in the past. However, the president of the mullahs strongly objected to this and insisted on issuing a joint army-revolution guards communique.

The report adds that it is now clear that Khamene'i was so insistent because he wanted to (?pretend) that the regime's guards had also been responsible for the Bostan operations.

PROSECUTOR GENERAL DELIVERS FRIDAY SERMON

GF111300 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0927 GMT 11 Dec 81

[Friday sermon delivered by Hojjat ol-Moslemin Rabbani-Amlashi, acting Tehran Friday imam and prosecutor general, at Tehran University -- live]

[Excerpts] Peace be upon Muslim Arab brothers and sisters. Peace be upon the vanguards of the world Islamic revolution. Peace be upon every steadfast and struggling oppressed person. With God's help, your Islamic revolution in Iran is advancing with long strides. Despite all the plots that are being hatched by the international oppressors, this revolution is forging ahead, eradicating oppression and slavery, eliminating the agents of imperialism within the country, and foiling all the plots by the enemies and their mercenaries in the region.

The Muslim masses everywhere are anxious to hear news of the Islamic revolution in Iran and are seeking to follow its footsteps and the steps of the leader imam. Oppressed peoples throughout the world are awaiting its complete success and its coming to their support to rescue them from the oppressors.

Who is opposing the tyrants in our Muslim countries -- in Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Sudan, Oman, Iraq, Jordan, the occupied territories and other countries? Who is carrying arms against the imperialists in Latin America, Africa and throughout the Third World, and even in Ireland, which lies under the yoke of English rule? Is it not the Muslims who have arisen against the nonbelievers? Is it not the oppressed who have arisen against the oppressors?

Oh Muslims, Oh oppressed of the world, Oh oppressed of the world [repeated]: Arise against the tyrants, for God has promised us to lead [imamat] the earth and He does not break His promise. Arise and destroy the devils for the leader of the oppressed calls upon you and says: We are in the middle of the road, and we shall reach its end if the world's oppressed are able to get rid of the oppressors' control.

As for you, imperialist agents, you have two alternatives: Either pursue the correct path or your thrones will fall under the feet of the strugglers. "Your money and what you have earned will be of no avail" [from the Koran] to you, and all your sophisticated equipment and electronic computers will not be able to do anything. Stop your plotting against the peoples and this filthy information that is hostile to the Islamic revolution.

At times you take the Islamic Republic to task for committing violent and terrorist actions and for killing and slaying, whereas the Islamic judiciary's apparatus follows the tenets of tolerant Islamic canon law. At other times you depict the situation in Iran as though it is about to collapse tomorrow. However, the believers know and God testifies that what you imagine is illusion and fantasy. Your hopes have been foiled and will be foiled in the future, God willing.

Lately the reckless and infidel regime of Baghdad has claimed that Islamic Iran has killed Iraqi prisoners. Never! Islam and the Iranian Government have nothing to do with such savagery and ignorance. What is the stand of Saddam and his executioners in Baghdad toward mankind and Islam so that they [words indistinct]? It is lies, fabrication and evildoing. But "evildoing encompasses only those who do it." [Koranic verse]

The revolutionary Islamic courts in Iran pass sentences that are in accordance with God's book and the Prophet's sayings. These courts will never go beyond Islamic law. We have turned prisons into education centers to guide the inmates and rehabilitate them so that they can work for Islam.

RADIO IRAN: MOJAHEDIN BEING BETRAYED FROM WITHIN

NC111648 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 11 Dec 81

[Text] Four safe houses of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization in Tehran were betrayed and, during an attack by revolution guards to (?occupy these houses), five Mojahedin were killed. Large quantities of arms and ammunition, including (?explosive material, eight RPG-7 launchers and dozens of machineguns) were found in these houses and [words indistinct] (?were confiscated by Khomeyni's revolution guards).

During the past few (?days another Mojahedin-e Khalq network was identified) and more than 100 Mojahedin [words indistinct] were arrested and imprisoned. Some of (?them) believe that the continuous (?attacks on safe houses) and the uncovering of Mojahedin-e Khalq networks (?is not accidential and elements) in the Mojahedin-e Khalq central organization are placing organizational information at the disposal of clergymen.

NVOI ON INTERNATIONAL, DOMESTIC ISSUES

TA112105 [Editorial Report] The Clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 11 December Carried Two Commentaries.

The first, entitled "The True Forces of the Revolution Demand the Implementation of the Constitution Without Alteration," said that breaking the law, violating the rights and the personal, political and social freedoms of the people, the unlawful acts of irresponsible and responsible individuals, and assault on the lives, honor and property of the people are among the unpleasant and bitter incidents which we are unfortunately witnessing every day in this or that part of our homeland. In light of the great danger which is aimed at the existence of the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran as a result of breaking the sovereignty of the law, Imam Khomeyni has named the year 1360 as the year of the rule of law and has called upon all government figures and officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran and implementors of the law to struggle intensely against instances of the violation of the law and against all acts that are contrary to regulations and the law. The imam has especially demanded that the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran be implemented without alteration. Our homeland's people remember well that from the beginning of the year 1360 and up to now, too, Imam Khomeyni has repeatedly drawn the attention of the authorities toward the necessity of total implementation of the Constitution. The fact that after so much emphasis and on the eve of the third anniversary of our nation's revolution the imam of the nation has entrusted the Supreme Judicial Council and the Islamic revolution prosecutor general with investigating, following up and punishing the offenders implies more than anything else that officials who must implement the law have not heeded the imam's demand.

As a result, in many areas today we are witnessing violations of the people's personal, political and social rights and freedoms, violation of the principles of the Constitution, lawbreakings, and even violation of the people's property, lives and honor -- the very thing which the great Satan and its fifth column in Iran, particularly the compromising liberals, want; and it must be said that they are also involved in the creation of such a situation.

The Iranian Constitution is one of the great gains of the Iranian nation's revolution, which irrespective of some inadequacies, has drawn up the main lines of the direction of the popular and anti-imperialist revolution and in which the essential principles for achieving the aims of the revolution, namely independence, freedom and social justice, have been stipulated. It is by implementing the Constitution unconditionally and without alteration that the continuity and broadening of the imam's and the nation's popular and anti-imperialist line can be insured, and calm based on law and social justice be established in the country. The true forces of the revolution, while endorsing the imam's order, firmly request the country's judicial authorities to act with revolutionary decisiveness against lawbreakers, violators of the principles of the Consitution, violators of the people's personal, political and social rights and freedoms, and against those who assault the people's lives, property and honor; and smooth the way for the return of calm based on law and social justice.

The second commentary, entitled "Dangerous Deal With Washington," stated: Political observers are calling Washington's decision regarding the sales of arms in the amount of $5.8 billion, including 5 AWACS planes to Saudi Arabia, as the deal of the century. In the past, too, after the regime of the accursed shah, Saudi Arabia was the greatest purchaser of U.S. arms. Let us recall that during the last 10 years the United States has imposed about $30 billion of modern arms on Saudi Arabia. The sellers of U.S. arms to Saudi Arabia pursue two goals: On the one hand they intend to pocket billions of Saudi Arabia's petro-dollars; on the other hand, by concluding this military deal they want to convince the Saudi Government that allegedly the United States is safeguarding the security of this country against aggression by foreign forces. It is evident that this U.S. claim is totally false and baseless. No one has any doubt that in the dangerous game with Saudi Arabia Washington is striving to implement the plan of transforming this country into its ally in the Arab east and the Persian Gulf, to use the Saudi regime against the Arab countries of the region, and at the same time to increase Israel's military power. Moreover, the United States is pursuing extensive warmongering and political goals in connection with the Near East and oil-producing region of the Persian Gulf. Apart from this, following the political execution of As-Sadat, the concern has arisen in Washington that the anti-Arab Egyptian-Israeli alliance that has been formed in the Near East under U.S. leadership is not able to unconditionally defend the United States' military and political interests in this strategically important region. The decision to establish a new base in the vicinity of the Persian Gulf stems from this concern.

Reagan's aim from the sale of AWACS planes and other modern weapons to Saudi Arabia is to insure the United States' permanent military presence in the territory of this country. The purchase of AWACS planes will cost Saudi Arabia dearly.

In short, the danger stemming from the conclusion of the new military agreement between the United States and Saudi Arabia is more than anything else aimed at Saudi Arabia itself. This military agreement has also exposed to serious danger the national interests of all the countries situated in the Persian Gulf region, including revolutionary Iran, against which aggressive America has not refrained for one moment from plots, provocations, conspiracies and military pressure.

NEPAL

USSR'S KUZNETSOV ARRIVES, HOLDS TALKS WITH THAPA

BK131517 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 13 Dec 81

[Text] Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa had talks in Katmandu today with First Deputy Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics V.V. Kuznetsov. The talks, that lasted about 2 hours, were held in a friendly and cordial atmosphere.

According to a spokesman of the Foreign Ministry, who briefed newsmen about the talks, various bilateral and international issues were discussed. Thapa and Kuznetsov also discussed the economic cooperation between the two countries.

In reply to a question, the spokesman said that the Soviet Union had kept Nepal's zone of peace proposal under official consideration. The Soviet Union's first deputy chairman expressed support for regional cooperation that Nepal is (?stressing), said the spokesman in answer to another query.

Earlier, Kuznetsov signed the visitors book at the Royal Palace. Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa is hosting a dinner in honor of Kuznetsov tonight.

Kuznetsov arrived in Katmandu today on a 3-day official visit to Nepal. He was accorded a warm welcome at the Tribhuvan International Airport by Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa.

Speaks at Banquet

BK131641 Hong Kong AFP in English 1604 GMT 13 Dec 81

[Text] Katmandu, 13 Dec (AFP) -- Visiting Soviet First Vice President [title as received] Mr V.V. Kuznetsov warned against "sabre-rattling" by "imperialist forces" which brought closer the threat of nuclear war, in a strongly worded speech at a welcoming banquet here (?today). He blamed "imperialist and hegemonist forces" (Soviet political codewords for the United States and China) for whipping up tensions in various parts of the world, which had resulted in a "noticeable aggravation of the international situation," and castigated the "imperialists" for adopting "a huge new programme of deploying strategic neutron and other weapons and advancing doctrines of admissability of a limited nuclear war."

Referring in veiled terms to both Washington and Beijing, Mr Kuznetsov asked: "Is there any guarantee that such reckless actions will not play the role of a fuse in unleashing a nuclear war in which there will be no winner?"

The Soviet first vice president called on "all peace-loving states and people" to "rebuff the designs of the enemies of peace and international security who are pushing mankind towards nuclear disaster."

He said the Soviet Union was aiming to restore a climate of "detente and trust."

Earlier Nepalese Premier Surya Bahadur Thapa in a welcoming speech reiterated Nepal's "firm disapproval" of "all kinds of outside interference in the internal affairs of sovereign independent states."

He reaffirmed Nepal's adherence to the principles of non-alginment and said Nepal extended total support to all initiatives towards peace, including proposals to declare the Indian Ocean and Mediterranean Sea zones of peace.

Nepal's own proposal to turn Nepal into a zone of peace also stemmed from its desire to "institutionalize peace in this region and the world at large."

Mr Thapa said he hoped the Soviet people and government would "show understanding of our genuine desire for peace and extend support to our proposal."

Mr Kuznetsov is leading a 15-member Soviet delegation, the first of its kind to visit Nepal since the visit 22 years ago of the late Soviet President Voroshilov, in 1960.

Earlier he and Mr Thapa held talks described by a Nepal Government spokesman as having taken place in a "friendly and cordial atmosphere," in which they discussed international issues, including Afghanistan and Cambodia, and bilateral economic issues.

SRI LANKA

OPPOSITION PARTY HEADQUARTERS BOMBED 12 DEC

BK121134 Hong Kong AFP in English 1026 GMT 12 Dec 81

[Text] Colombo, 12 Dec (AFP) -- A bomb exploded at the disputed headquarters of the opposition Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) at noon here today, eyewitnesses said.

The sources added that two persons riding a motorcycle threw the bomb at the five-storied building. The bomb exploded, injuring a policeman and two civilians. It also shattered a glass window.

Police said they were investigating the incident. This is the latest in a series of incidents following claims to ownership of the headquarters building by two rival SLFP factions. One faction is led by former Prime Minister Sirimavo Bandaranaike who has been president of the party for the past 20 years and the other by her one-time deputy Maitripala Senanayake.

The headquarters building, which was requisitioned by the government 4 months ago following the rival claims, was handed over to Mr Senanayake last Wednesday.

Mrs Bandaranaike protested against the move, accusing the government of acting illegally and unjustly. She said that the government had given the building to mr Senanayake while two cases were pending in courts over the matter.

Mrs Bankaranaike and her group went to court and obtained a directive from a magistrate last Wednesday evening ordering the police to eject Mr Senanayake and others who were occupying the building.

The magistrate ordered both parties to appear in court next Monday. Mrs Bandaranaike has said that the police have so far failed to carry out the magistrate's order directing them to eject Mr Senanayake and his supports from the premises.

Meanwhile, Mr Senanayake and his supporters have now entrenched themselves in the party headquarters claiming that they form the genuine SLFP. Mr Senanayake has been elected president of his group.

Mrs Bandaranaike's son, Anura, who is opposing his mother, has been appointed deputy president of the Senanayake group labelled by the press as SLFP (Maitripala) as opposed to SLFP (Sirima).